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ABSTRACT

This book introduces critical theory, providing a practical starting point for teachers interested in exploring alternatives for creating a new kind of classroom experience, both for themselves and their students. Critical theory offers most educators an approach to education that is radically different from the norm. This book provides the critical theorist's vision of a better world through a different kind of education. The eight chapters are as follows: (1) Who Cares? Why Theory--And Critical Theory in Particular--Matters; (2) Unpacking "The Way it Is": Constructed Consciousness and Hegemony; (3) Rethinking What We Know: Positivist and Constructivist Epistemology; (4) Rethinking Ed Psych 101: Instrumental Rationality and Post-Formalism; (5) Rethinking Authority: Cultural Capital. (6) Rethinking Agendas: Social Reproduction and Resistance; (7) Refocusing: Critical Consciousness/Conscientization; and (8) So After Theory, What? Praxis and Empowerment. (SM)

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